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To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I would like to say that I believe what the government and competitors are trying to do to Microsoft is unfair and unjust. Why is it a crime to be extremely good and successful in business? This whole case is built off of jealousy that other companies could not succeed as well as Microsoft or did not think of something first.

Microsoft took the software industry to the next level when companies like Lotus, Novell, and WordPerfect became complacent. If the government is going to punish Microsoft for being innovative and capturing the market then why not look at the other companies, like Oracle and SUN, who are trying but have not succeeded at doing the exact same thing. SUN has their own hardware and their own operating system that runs on their platform.

Open source is not an option. Is the government going to force every software company to make their products open source? And think of the logical consequences to such actions. No further innovativeness, no real competition, and then think of the security issues. If Windows and/or other products are made open source can you just picture some person not having enough knowledge/skill and trying to modify code and then destroy peoples'/companies environments all because the product was open sourced.

Let me give you an analogy: Let's say that I own my own cookie business. I start it up using a family recipe that was passed down for generations. I start out small and because they are so good my business booms and I start expanding all over. Pretty soon when anyone thinks about cookies they think about my company and me. Now, some other cookie maker comes along and because they do not do as well in the business as me they start to complain and make a lot of noise. Then they get other cookie companies to do the same. Is it fair to say that the government would then ask me to share my recipe for my cookies as well as my success?

I don't agree that the 9 states that don't want to settle should be given that choice. They are only looking out for what is best for their individual state and not the public. It is in the best interest of the public to have this case resolved once and for all.

Thanks for taking the time to read.

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